

Winter's Tide (Sisters in All Seasons)

Lisa Williams Kline

Reviewed by: Victorria Dau, 17

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

www.bethestaryouare.org

This book is about two stepsisters who live together after their parents get divorced. Each portrays different character and they are complete opposites. But they discover a special tool through their hardship that bonds them together, despite their differences.

Diane still has a difficult time coping with her parents' divorce so she alienates herself from her friends, and finds comfort from her animal friends. She doesn't have any social life at school and trusts only her stepsister Stephanie. She's selfish, defiant and only thinks about herself. Stephanie is a very popular girl in school and she's loved by her friends, teachers, and all the other people in her life, including Diane's mother. She gets along with everyone and offers her help, gives comfort and support to her friends and family. She believes in God whereas Diane thinks the churchgoers are hypocrites. But Stephanie has a dark secret that she keeps from everyone.

Diane then gets suspended from school because she was involved in a fight with a girl, because she was bullied by students from her school. During the winter break, both girls encounter a near death experience from their loved ones. Diane discovered who started the rumor that led people at school to start calling her names. Stephanie faced her fears with the help of her stepsister. Their relationship grew stronger through this trauma and Diane learns to support her stepsister. She also has reconnected herself with parents and she realizes that God exists in everyone's life.

This is a great book to share with teenagers, it's a good reminder to live a meaningful life. And, allow yourself to explore your feelings and express concerns for others. Also, you can learn to be resilient, and build trust with people that are in your life, and be supportive of others.